

## Claims

- [c1] A method of isolating a stable competitive population of selectively expanded population of a predetermined target population of cells, said method comprising: introducing a starting sample of cells into a growth medium; causing cells of said predetermined target cell population to divide; and contacting the cells in the growth medium with a selection ligand, comprising a plurality of selective binding ligands with specific affinity either for target cells or for a first population of non-target cells, so as to select cells of said predetermined target population from other cells in the growth medium the improvement comprising re-introducing the selectively expanded predetermined target population of cells into a second starting sample of cells and re-iterating the selective expansion method until a stable competitive population is isolated.
- [c2] The competitive population of selectively expanded target cells, wherein, said competitive population of selectively expanded target cells are isolated by the method of claim 1.
- [c3] The selective binding ligand with specific affinity either

for target cells or for a first population of non-target cells comprising selective binding ligands isolated from chemical or phage display combinatorial libraries.

- [c4] An internally coated glass helical coil, wherein, said coating comprises a ligand of claim 3 internally linked by a silane acrylic linker to said internally coated glass helical coil.